

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 38378 301659Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----301707Z 034027 /23
O 301714Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8380

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 38378

EXDIS

E.O.11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PFOR VN US
SUBJ: US-VIETNAMESE RELATIONS: AMERICANS IN VIETNAM

REF: (A) STATE 307290, (B) PARIS 37847

1. ON DECEMBER 30 SRV EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY DO THANH CALLED TO REQUEST APPOINTMENT WITH EMBOFF AT 1600 HRS SAME DAY. PURPOSE OF DO THANH'S VISIT WAS TO TRANSMIT ORAL MESSAGE CONVEYED TO SRV EMBASSY BY VIETNAMESE RED CROSS CONCERNING REF DOCUMENTS FORWARDED BY AMERICAN RED CROSS.

2. NEARLY VERBATIM TRANSLATION OF THIS ORAL MESSAGE FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TRANSLATION: CONCERNING THE DOCUMENTS FORWARDED BY THE AMERICAN RED CROSS, PROBLEMS OF THIS CATEGORY ARE ALWAYS TRANSMITTED TO THE SRV GOVERNMENTAL MECHANISMS MOST DIRECTLY CONCERNED, IN ORDER TO PERMIT THEIR EFFECTIVE RESOLUTION. THE REASON FOR THIS IS THAT THE VIETNAMESE RED CROSS DOES NOT HAVE THE COMPETENCE TO RESOLVE QUESTIONS OF THIS KIND. IN THE PAST, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SRV HAS RELIED ON DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS TO RESOLVE CASES OF THIS KIND WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES. FOR THIS
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REASON, THE VIETNAMESE PARTY BELIEVES THAT THE US PARTY SHOULD RAISE SUCH QUESTIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES AGREED UPON BY BOTH PARTIES. THE VIETNAMESE PARTY SUGGESTS THAT THE US PARTY TAKE THE OCCASION TO RAISE THIS PROBLEM SPECIFICALLY DURING THE NEXT MEETING BETWEEN SRV AND US REPRESENTATIVES IN

PARIS. THIS PROCEDURE WILL PERMIT A CAREFUL
EXAMINATION AND EFFECTIVE RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM.
END TRANSLATION.

3. ALTHOUGH ASKED, DO THANH DID NOT SPECIFY WHICH
SRV GOVERNMENTAL MINISTRIES ARE CURRENTLY HANDLING THE
RED CROSS DOCUMENTS. HE DID NOT ASK EMBOFF WHETHER
ANY ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS HAD BEEN RECEIVED CONCERNING
THE TIMING OF A FURTHER MEETING BETWEEN US AND SRV
REPRESENTATIVES IN PARIS.
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Message Attributes

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